

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): An electrostatic latent image carrier ~~used in an image forming apparatus for an imaging system~~, comprising a dielectric layer, ~~wherein charge is transferred that is electrified or de-electrified by transfer of charges~~ between said dielectric layer and a charge-transfer controlling means so as to ~~apply charge to or remove charge from said dielectric layer~~, wherein

~~on a front layer of said dielectric layer has a low-resistance layer formed on the outer surface thereof, said low-resistance layer comprises a large, a number of electrically conductive portions electrified or de-electrified by transfer of charges between said dielectric layer and said charge-transfer controlling means are formed as a low-resistance layer in which, charge is transferred between said conductive portions and said charge transfer controlling means so as to apply charge to or remove charge from said conductive portions, and said electrically conductive portions are independently and discretely arranged to be dispersed separately from each other in an outer surface of said dielectric layer, and~~

~~an electrical resistance of said low-resistance layer has an anisotropy such that resistance of said low-resistance layer in a longitudinal direction orthogonal to a plane direction is less than resistance of said low-resistance layer in the plane direction.~~

2. (currently amended): An electrostatic latent image carrier used in an image forming

apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said conductive portions are a large number of dots which are dispersedly arranged.

3. (canceled).

4. (currently amended): An electrostatic latent image carrier used in an image forming apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 1 or 2, wherein the electric resistance of said low-resistance layer is anisotropic such that resistance in a direction perpendicular to the plane direction of said low-resistance layer vertical direction is less than resistance in the plane direction of said low-resistance layer in lateral direction.

5. (currently amended): An electrostatic latent image carrier used in an image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the thickness of said low-resistance layer is set to be 1 μm or less.

6. (withdrawn, currently amended): A method of manufacturing an electrostatic latent image carrier as claimed in claim 1, comprising:
previously forming a large number of concavities in the outer surface of said dielectric layer so that said concavities are dispersed separately from each other,
coating conductive material onto the surface of said dielectric layer formed with said concavities, and
grinding at least said coated conductive material, thereby forming the large number of

conductive portions which are separately dispersed.

7. (withdrawn, currently amended): A method of manufacturing an electrostatic latent image carrier as claimed in claim 1, comprising:

making said dielectric layer from an insulating material which is soluble relative to a predetermined liquid, and

spraying a liquid, prepared by dispersing conductive particles dispersed into said predetermined liquid, onto predetermined positions of the surface of said dielectric layer at predetermined intervals, thereby forming said conductive portions.

8-27. (canceled).

28. (currently amended): An electrostatic latent image carrier used in an image forming apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the low resistance layer and the large number of conductive portions are fixedly disposed with respect to the dielectric layer.

29-30. (canceled).

31. (withdrawn, currently amended): A method of manufacturing an electrostatic latent image carrier as claimed in claim 2, comprising:

previously forming a large number of concavities in the outer surface of said dielectric layer so that said concavities are dispersed separately from each other,

coating conductive material onto the surface of said dielectric layer formed with said concavities, and

grinding at least said coated conductive material, thereby forming the large number of conductive portions which are separately dispersed.

32. (withdrawn, currently amended): A method of manufacturing an electrostatic latent image carrier as claimed in claim 2, comprising:

making said dielectric layer from an insulating material which is soluble relative to a predetermined liquid, and

spraying a liquid, prepared by dispersing conductive particles dispersed into said predetermined liquid, onto predetermined positions of the surface of said dielectric layer at predetermined intervals, thereby forming said conductive portions.

33. (withdrawn, currently amended): A method of manufacturing an electrostatic latent image carrier as claimed in claim 3, comprising:

previously forming a large number of concavities in the outer surface of said dielectric layer so that said concavities are dispersed separately from each other,

coating conductive material onto the surface of said dielectric layer formed with said concavities, and

grinding at least said coated conductive material, thereby forming the large number of conductive portions which are separately dispersed.

34. (withdrawn, currently amended): A method of manufacturing an electrostatic latent image carrier as claimed in claim 3, comprising:

making said dielectric layer from an insulating material which is soluble relative to a predetermined liquid, and

spraying a liquid, prepared by dispersing conductive particles dispersed into said predetermined liquid, onto predetermined positions of the surface of said dielectric layer at predetermined intervals, thereby forming said conductive portions.

35. (withdrawn, currently amended): A method of manufacturing an electrostatic latent image carrier as claimed in claim 4, comprising:

previously forming a large number of concavities in the outer surface of said dielectric layer so that said concavities are dispersed separately from each other,

coating conductive material onto the surface of said dielectric layer formed with said concavities, and

grinding at least said coated conductive material, thereby forming the large number of conductive portions which are separately dispersed.

36. (withdrawn, currently amended): A method of manufacturing an electrostatic latent image carrier as claimed in claim 4, comprising:

making said dielectric layer from an insulating material which is soluble relative to a predetermined liquid, and

spraying a liquid, prepared by dispersing conductive particles dispersed into said

predetermined liquid, onto predetermined positions of the surface of said dielectric layer at predetermined intervals, thereby forming said conductive portions.

37. (withdrawn, currently amended): A method of manufacturing an electrostatic latent image carrier as claimed in claim 5, comprising:

previously forming a large number of concavities in the outer surface of said dielectric layer so that said concavities are dispersed separately from each other,
coating conductive material onto the surface of said dielectric layer formed with said concavities, and

grinding at least said coated conductive material, thereby forming the large number of conductive portions which are separately dispersed.

38. (withdrawn, currently amended): A method of manufacturing an electrostatic latent image carrier as claimed in claim 5, comprising:

making said dielectric layer from an insulating material which is soluble relative to a predetermined liquid, and

spraying a liquid, prepared by dispersing conductive particles dispersed into said predetermined liquid, onto predetermined positions of the surface of said dielectric layer at predetermined intervals, thereby forming said conductive portions.